

Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report



Department of Statistics

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March 1981

An unusually warm March and increased conservation contributed to the decline of gas sales by 8.4 percent from 1,787.3 trillion of Btu in March 1980 to 1,636.7 trillion of Btu. Residential sales decreased 12.4 percent, commercial sales 11.0 percent, and industrial sales 3.5 percent.

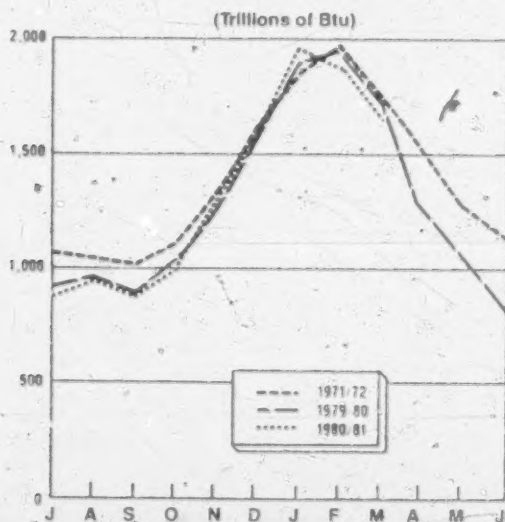
GAS SALES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

	March			Heating Season (Nov.-Mar.)		January 1 to December 31		
	1981	1980	% Change	1980/81	% Change From Last Period	1980 ^P	1981	Forecast ¹
Residential	606.2	692.0	- 12.4 ²	3,300.5	+ 1.9	4,853.4		4,851.5
Commercial	291.0	326.9	- 11.0	1,542.5	+ 1.8	2,431.8		2,417.2
Industrial	708.3	733.9	- 3.5	3,358.5	- 2.8	7,723.4		7,642.1
Other	31.2	34.5	-	179.9	-	309.7		167.1
Total	1,636.7	1,787.3	- 8.4	8,381.4	+ 0.3	15,318.3		15,077.9
Degree-Days ^P (A.G.A.)	617	688	- 10.3	3,654	- 2.5			

Gas sales are based on a sample of 69 companies whose sales constitute about 65 percent of the total gas sales to ultimate consumers.

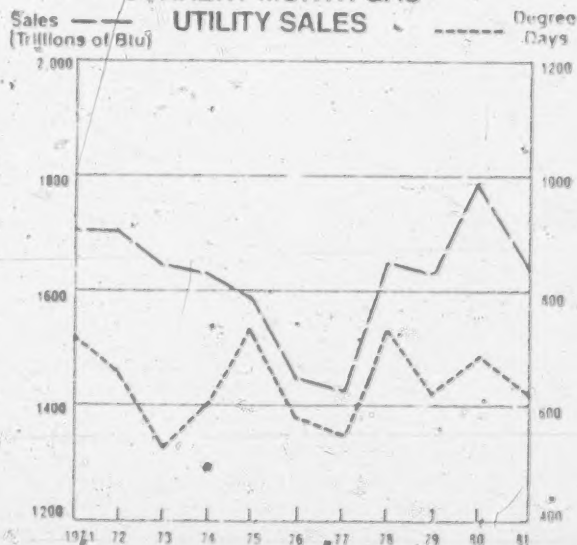
^Ppreliminary

MONTHLY GAS UTILITY SALES



The peak year in sales for the Gas Utility industry occurred in 1972.

CURRENT MONTH GAS UTILITY SALES



RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS (Thousands of Units)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	March			
	1981	1980	% Change '80 vs '81	
Domestic Range				
Gas	145.6	151.0	-	3.6
Electric	196.6	215.0 ^R	-	8.6
Clothes Dryers				
Gas	54.0	58.8	-	8.2
Electric	206.1	224.1	-	8.0
Warm Air Furnaces				
Gas	120.0	121.6	-	1.3
Electric	26.0	22.8	+	14.0
Oil	4.5	4.1	+	9.8
Boilers				
Gas	17.5	31.2	-	56.7
Electric	0.1	0.4	-	59.5
Oil	3.3	4.5	-	27.5

R-revised.

Sources: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA)

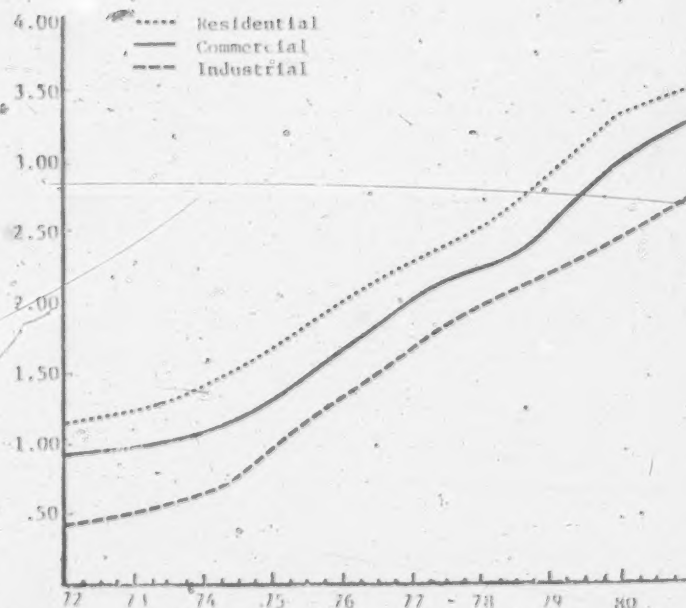
	March			
	1981	1980	% Change '80 vs '81	
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	107.3	85.1	+	26.1
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1967 = 100)				
Gas (utility pipe gas)	395.2	343.9	+	14.9
Electricity	273.9	237.9	+	15.1
Fuel Oil	730.9	577.9	+	26.5
Index Total Gas Sales (1967 = 100)	114.5	125.0	-	8.4

Sources: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics, A.G.A.

AVERAGE ANNUAL AND 1980 QUARTERLY GAS UTILITY PRICES (\$/MMBtu)

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES (\$/MMBtu)

Year	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.	Oth.
1972	0.73	1.19	0.91	0.45	0.41
1973	0.79	1.25	0.85	0.50	0.44
1974	0.95	1.42	1.11	0.66	0.60
1975	1.29	1.69	1.38	0.99	0.94
1976	1.60	1.98	1.68	1.32	1.15
1977	1.97	2.33	2.07	1.70	1.45
1978	2.18	2.53	2.28	1.91	1.50
1979	2.52	2.92	2.66	2.24	1.67
1980 ^P	3.08	3.53	3.30	2.77	2.07



¹ 1981 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1981 monthly data. The remaining months are derived by using a four year average.

The industrial sector forecast is also based on available 1981 monthly data. The remaining months of 1981 are heavily weighted by last years sales with no adjustment made for degree days.

² The percent change is a function of the 69 sample companies and their degree days.